

1st National Conference on Teaching Sociology in the Muslim World: Challenges and Remedies

Dated 21-22th March (Tuesday, Wednesday)

Organized by: Department of Sociology

University of Gujrat, Gujrat, Pakistan

Sociology has always been assumed to be considered a western subject originating in the collective consciousness of the European community after epic events such as the French Revolution, Calvinism, Darwinism, Romanticism and industrial revolution. Although, these events may have hit the social texture and the collective consciousness of the Muslim world but the discourse on the rationalization and westernization of Sociology is such a radical one that even Americans and Canadians are forced to produce distinct sociological material, they label as “Canadian Sociology” etc. Sociological theory against the backdrop of the Western institution and materialistic developments as manifested through a distinct political economy hardly captures the spiritual, self-transcendent and radically fragmented sociological subject of the Muslim World. Literal application of western cannons of thought for the analysis of what happens in the Muslim world is not sufficient. Furthermore, it has inhibited the emergence of autochthonous perspectives in Sociology. While sociology at large is facing a period of crisis and legitimating its reason d’être is readily challenged in the Muslim world. Evolving crisis and durable armed conflicts, militancy, radical Islamism and violent fundamentalisms are the phenomena we have largely failed to address sociologically. Western Scholarship tends to view all these developments as reactionary or Puritanical developments as capitalistic mode of production has produced renewed crisis. Moreover, the dream of an employed and engaged citizenry has undermined many faculties and fields including Sociology. It promoted an “All-Administrative university” as it had been acknowledged in the field of sociology of education. Classroom narratives of students speak of a wide gap and interest deficit largely because students are forced to follow western textbook clarifying concepts with examples that are hardly relatable and humor that is never perceivable. Hence, the current conference visions to bring expert knowledge and indigenous perspective to the fore. Hoping that an initial yet significant contribution can be made to the emergence of an indigenous model of Sociology and it’s teaching because if there is a decline in the homeland of Sociology its likely to impact our universities: the periphery of Sociology.

Aims and Objectives

The objectives of the Conference are:

- To assess the challenges of teaching sociology in the Muslim world especially Pakistan
- To provide a platform for sharing research on the teaching of sociology, classroom milieu and learning outcomes
- To publish a conference report as to provide a national resource on issues and remedies related to the teaching of sociology in Pakistan
- To formulate a future roadmap for the teaching of sociology in the Muslim world

Major Themes

- Higher education and the contemporary challenges
- Social aspects the Pakistani educational system
- Course design and syllabi of sociology in Muslim world
- Reimagining sociological knowledge in the Muslim world
- Availability of indigenous literature in sociology
- Teaching sociology: strategies and approaches
- Education and social transformations
- Centers of excellence: issues in higher education
- The legacy and future of sociology
- The role of job markets with particular reference to sociology
- The growth and decline of sociology in the Muslim world
- The scope and significance of sociology in the context of socio-economic and political challenges
- Trends and orientations in opting sociology as a career choice

Expected outcomes

1. Since the conference will be the first and the unique conference aimed at creating a national alliance for the particular demands of sociology as a faculty we expect that it will provoke high levels of involvement by national sociologists
2. The conference will allow for national and international debate on the future of sociology and how to make this field more relevant to Muslim society and its current social problems
3. Emergence of indigenous perspectives in sociology
4. Exchange of research and scholarship on class room culture and issues of instruction and teaching will bring effective change in the teaching experiences of faculty involved in the conference
5. Documentation of proceeding will be disseminated widely among academic circles
6. An agenda for the employability of sociology students will be prepared and launched by Sociology Department at University of Gujrat

Call for Papers

It is an immense pleasure to inform you that Department of Sociology, University of Gujrat is organizing the 1st National Conference on “Teaching Sociology in the Muslim World: Challenges and Remedies”. The authors are invited to submit their abstracts based on the original and scientific research in the fields of Sociology keeping in mind the major themes of the conference.

Abstract Submission

Please submit your abstracts via email to: consoc@uog.edu.pk in Word Format not exceeding more than 250 words only in English Language. (Paper format should be according to APA Style)

Paper Publication

Upon assessment of reviewers, selected papers will be published in HEC recognized “*Pakistan Journal of Social Issues (PJSI)*” University of Gujrat

Venue

The conference will be conducted at the Quaid-e-Azam Library Auditorium, University of Gujrat, Gujrat, Pakistan

Registration

The registration will be completed on first day before the start of opening ceremony of the conference.

For Contact

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Contact # 03457755775; 0533643112 & 0533643117 (EXT. 135)

Further,

Important Dates (Revised Schedule)

Submission of abstracts	Tuesday, 31 January, 2017
Acceptance of abstracts	Friday, 03 February, 2017
Submission of papers (Full Paper)	Thursday, 16 February, 2017
Notification of Acceptance	Friday, 24 February, 2017
Authors' Registration and submission of power point slides	Thursday, 02 March, 2017
Confirmation of Booking and Accommodation	Friday, 10 March, 2017
Conference	21-22 March, 2017

Conference Committee

Patron-In-Chief

Prof. Dr. Zia Ul Qayyum
Vice Chancellor,
University of Gujrat

Chief Organizer

Prof. Dr. Fauzia Maqsood
Dean
Faculty of Social Sciences
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Organizing Committee

Mr. Muhammad Shoaib (Assistant Professor)
Mr. Tipu Sultan (Lecturer)
Mr. Muhammad Shehzad (Lecturer)
Mr. Nasim Ahmed (Lecturer)
Ms. Anila Iram (Associate Lecturer)
Ms. Arooj Sikandar (Associate Lecturer)
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